

Appl. No. 10/621,951
Response to 1st Action dated 06/01/2006
Reply to Office Action of 03/01/2006

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph on page 8, lines 18 – 31 with the following paragraph.

Since there may be anywhere from hundreds to thousands of files on a server, for example, entering pathnames of all the files, including their cross-referenced inode numbers, in the MENC may be quite unmanageable as well as counter-productive. Hence, only a subset of the files will be entered in the MENC. To take full advantage of the MENC, therefore, only pathnames of files that are accessed quite frequently should be entered in the MENC. For example, ~~as-a~~ library file "libc.a" is accessed very frequently. Hence, entering its pathname "/usr/lib/libc.a" and its cross-referenced inode number in the MENC may enhance the performance of the computer system. A system administrator may, therefore, select and enter the pathnames of these frequently-used files in the MENC.

Please replace the three paragraphs on page 14, lines 4 – 30 with the following three paragraphs.

Figs. 11 and 12 illustrate commands that may be used at any time to make persistent entries into the MENC through the MENC extended attribute file. The command in Fig. 11 indicates the mount point (statement 1120) of a mounted file system and a request to add the entry (statement 1115 4425) into the MENC (statement 1105). It also makes the entry persistent (statement 1110) by storing the pathname in the MENC extended attribute associated with the root directory of the file system.

The command in Fig. 12, on the other hand, specifies a logical volume (statement 1220) that contains an unmounted file system. The command makes the entry (statement 1215 4225) persistent (statement 1210) into the MENC (statement 1205) by causing the LVM to store the pathname in the MENC

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extended attribute associated with the root directory of the file system. Note that pathname entries will not be made into the MENC until the file system is mounted. Note also that a mount point is not specified. Thus, when the file system is mounted in the future, the mount point will be pre-pended to the persistent relative pathnames and added into the MENC. As before, those MENC entries will be deleted or allowed to be written over once the file system is unmounted.

Just as in the case of making entries into the MENC, entries may be removed at anytime from the MENC. Fig. 13 depicts a MENC command with a remove option. In Fig. 13, the pathname (statement 1315 4210) is to be removed from the MENC (statement 1305) using the remove option (statement 1310).

Please replace the paragraph on page 16, lines 1 - 7 with the following paragraph.

If there is not an MENC entry request on the command line (step 1502) or after static entries have been made into the MENC due to entry requests on the command line (step 1506), a check will be made to determine whether there is an MENC extended attribute file (steps 1508 and 1510). If so, the file is opened and the entries in the file read (step 1512) and the process jumps to step 1504. If not, the process ends (1514).

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